SENATE BILL 371 CORRECTIONAL MANAGED HEALTH CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Legislature created the Correctional Managed Health Care Advisory Committee in 1993 to address concerns of the rising costs of offender health care and the sizable growth in the Texas prison population. The Presidents of the University Texas Medical Branch and Texas Tech University each appoint two members, and the Executive Director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice also appoints two members to this six member panel. At least one member from each organization must be a licensed physician.

The Committee is responsible for establishing a managed health care system to control costs by negotiating contracts with a network of physicians, hospitals, and other health care providers. Today, health care services for inmates in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) are provided through contractual relationships with the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB) and the Texas Tech University Health Science Center. The Health Services Division of TDCJ monitors providers to make certain all inmates are receiving adequate and prompt health care services.

Senate Bill 371 continues the Committee for six years. The bill also expands the Committee's membership by adding three public members who will provide additional expertise and a broader perspective. Other provisions of the bill specify the duties of the Committee to manage the contracts for health care and monitor the quality of care inmates receive. Previously, these duties were specified only in the contracts between the Committee, TDCJ, and the health care providers.⁴

⁴ Id

Enrolled ENROLLED 76th-'99

S.B. No. 371

AN ACT

1	relating to the continuation and functions of the Correctional
2	Managed Health Care Advisory Committee.
3	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
4	SECTION 1. Chapter 501, Government Code, is amended by
5	adding Subchapter E to read as follows:
6	SUBCHAPTER E. MANAGED HEALTH CARE
7	Sec. 501.131. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "committee"
8	means the Correctional Managed Health Care Committee.
9	Sec. 501.132. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. The Correctional
10	Managed Health Care Committee is subject to Chapter 325 (Texas
11	Sunset Act). Unless continued in existence as provided by that
12	chapter, the committee is abolished and this subchapter expires
13	September 1, 2005.
14	Sec. 501.133. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP. (a) The committee
15	consists of nine members appointed as follows:
16	(1) two members employed full-time by the department,
17	at least one of whom is a physician, appointed by the executive
18	director;
19	(2) two members employed full-time by The University
20	of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, at least one of whom is a
21	physician, appointed by the president of the medical branch;
22	(3) two members employed full-time by the Texas Tech
23	University Health Sciences Center, at least one of whom is a
24	physician, appointed by the president of the university; and

(4) three public members appointed by the governor who
are not affiliated with the department or with any entity with
which the committee has contracted to provide health care services
under this chapter, at least two of whom are licensed to practice
medicine in this state.
(b) An appointment to the committee shall be made without
regard to the race, color, disability, sex, religion, age, or
national origin of the appointee.
Sec. 501.134. PUBLIC MEMBER ELIGIBILITY. A person may not
be a public member of the committee if the person or the person's
spouse:
(1) is employed by or participates in the management
of a business entity or other organization regulated by or
receiving money from the department or the committee;
(2) owns or controls, directly or indirectly, more
than a 10 percent interest in a business entity or other
organization regulated by or receiving money from the department or
the committee; or
(3) uses or receives a substantial amount of tangible
goods, services, or money from the department or the committee
other than compensation or reimbursement authorized by law for
committee membership, attendance, or expenses.
Sec. 501.135. MEMBERSHIP AND EMPLOYEE RESTRICTIONS. (a) In

this section, "Texas trade association" means a cooperative and

voluntarily joined association of business or professional

competitors in this state designed to assist its members and its

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1	industry or profession in dealing with mutual business or
2	professional problems and in promoting their common interest.
3	(b) A person may not be a member of the committee and may
4	not be a committee employee employed in a "bona fide executive,
5	administrative, or professional capacity, as that phrase is used
6	for purposes of establishing an exemption to the overtime
7	provisions of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29
8	U.S.C. Section 201 et seq.) and its subsequent amendments if:
9	(1) the person is an officer, employee, or paid
10	consultant of a Texas trade association in the field of health care
11	or health care services; or
12	(2) the person's spouse is an officer, manager, or
13	paid consultant of a Texas trade association in the field of health
14	care or health care services.
15	(c) A person may not be a member of the committee or act as
16	the general counsel to the committee if the person is required to
17	register as a lobbyist under Chapter 305 because of the person's
18	activities for compensation on behalf of a profession related to
19	the operation of the committee.
20	Sec. 501.136. TERMS OF OFFICE. Committee members appointed
21	by the governor serve staggered six-year terms, with the term of
22	one of those members expiring on February 1 of each odd-numbered
23	year. Other committee members serve at the will of the appointing
24	official or until termination of the member's employment with the
25	entity the member represents.
26	Sec. 501.137. PRESIDING OFFICER. The governor shall

2	The presiding officer serves in that capacity at the will of the
3	governor.
4	Sec. 501.138. GROUNDS FOR REMOVAL. (a) It is a ground for
5	removal from the committee that a member:
6	(1) does not have at the time of taking office the
7	qualifications required by Section 501.133;
8	(2) does not maintain during service on the committee
9	the qualifications required by Section 501.133;
10	(3) is ineligible for membership under Section 501.134
11	or 501.135;
12	(4) cannot, because of illness or disability,
13	discharge the member's duties for a substantial part of the
14	member's term; or
15	(5) is absent from more than half of the regularly
16	scheduled committee meetings that the member is eligible to attend
17	during a calendar year without an excuse approved by a majority
18	vote of the committee.
19	(b) The validity of an action of the committee is not
20	affected by the fact that it is taken when a ground for removal of
21	a committee member exists.
22	(c) If the managed health care administrator has knowledge
23	that a potential ground for removal exists, the administrator shall
24	notify the presiding officer of the committee of the potential
25	ground. The presiding officer shall then notify the governor and
26	the attorney general that a potential ground for removal exists.

designate a physician member of the committee as presiding officer.

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1	If the potential ground for removal involves the presiding officer,
2	the managed health care administrator shall notify the next highest
3	ranking officer of the committee, who shall then notify the
4	governor and the attorney general that a potential ground for
5	removal exists.
6	Sec. 501.139. MEETINGS. (a) The committee shall meet at
7	least once in each quarter of the calendar year and at any other
8	time at the call of the presiding officer.
9	(b) The committee may hold a meeting by telephone conference
l 0	call or other video or broadcast technology.
l 1	Sec. 501.140. TRAINING. (a) A person who is appointed to
l 2	and qualifies for office as a member of the committee may not vote,
l 3	deliberate, or be counted as a member in attendance at a meeting of
14	the committee until the person completes a training program that
.5	complies with this section.
.6	(b) The training program must provide the person with
.7	information regarding:
.8	(1) the legislation that created the committee;
.9	(2) the programs operated by the committee;
30	(3) the role and functions of the committee;
?1	(4) the rules of the committee with an emphasis on the
? 2	rules that relate to disciplinary and investigatory authority;
? 3	(5) the current budget for the committee;
?4	(6) the results of the most recent formal audit of the
! 5	committee;
16	(7) the requirements of:

3	(C) the administrative procedure law, Chapter
4	2001; and
5	(D) other laws relating to public officials,
6	including conflict-of-interest laws; and
7	(8) any applicable ethics policies adopted by the
8	committee or the Texas Ethics Commission.
9	(c) A person appointed to the committee is entitled to
10	reimbursement, as provided by the General Appropriations Act, for
11	the travel expenses incurred in attending the training program
12	regardless of whether the attendance at the program occurs before
13	or after the person qualifies for office.
14	Sec. 501.141. COMPENSATION; REIMBURSEMENT. A committee
15	member serves without compensation but is entitled to reimbursement
16	for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of
17	the duties of the committee.
18	Sec. 501.142. ADMINISTRATION; PERSONNEL. The committee may
19	hire a managed health care administrator, who may employ personnel
20	necessary for the administration of the committee's duties. The
21	committee shall pay necessary costs for its operation, including
22	costs of hiring the managed health care administrator and other
23	personnel, from funds appropriated by the legislature to the
24	department for correctional health care.
25	Sec. 501.143. DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES. The committee
26	shall develop and implement policies that clearly separate the

(A) the open meetings law, Chapter 551;

(B) the public information law, Chapter 552;

1	policy-making responsibilities of the committee and the management
2	responsibilities of the managed health care administrator and staff
3	of the committee.
4	Sec. 501.144. QUALIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS OF CONDUCT
5	INFORMATION. The managed health care administrator or the
6	administrator's designee shall provide to members of the committee
7	and to committee employees, as often as necessary, information
8	regarding the requirements for office or employment under this
9	subchapter, including information regarding a person's
10	responsibilities under applicable laws relating to standards of
11	conduct for state officers or employees.
12	Sec. 501.145. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY. (a) The
13	managed health care administrator or the administrator's designee
14	shall prepare and maintain a written policy statement that
15	implements a program of equal employment opportunity to ensure that
16	all personnel decisions are made without regard to race, color,
17	disability, sex, religion, age, or national origin.
18	(b) The policy statement must include:
19	(1) personnel policies, including policies relating to
20	recruitment, evaluation, selection, training, and promotion of
21	personnel, that show the intent of the committee to avoid the
22	unlawful employment practices described by Chapter 21, Labor Code;
23	and
24	(2) an analysis of the extent to which the composition
25	of the committee's personnel is in accordance with state and
26	federal law and a description of reasonable methods to achieve

1	compliance with state and federal law.
2	(c) The policy statement must:
3	(1) be updated annually;
4	(2) be reviewed by the state Commission on Human
5	Rights for compliance with Subsection (b)(1); and
6	(3) be filed with the governor's office.
7	Sec. 501.146. MANAGED HEALTH CARE PLAN. (a) The committee
8	shall develop a managed health care plan for all persons confined
9	by the department that includes:
L.O	(1) the establishment of a managed health care
l 1	provider network of physicians and hospitals that will serve the
l 2	department as the exclusive health care provider for persons
13	confined in institutions operated by the department;
14	(2) cost containment studies;
15	(3) care case management and utilization management
16	studies performed for the department; and
.7	(4) concerning the establishment of criteria for
.8	hospitals, home health providers, or hospice providers, a provision
.9	requiring the managed health care plan to accept certification by
!0	the Medicare program under Title XVIII, Social Security Act (42
!1	U.S.C. Section 1395 et seq.), and its subsequent amendments, as an
!2	alternative to accreditation by the Joint Commission on
!3	Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.
!4	(b) To implement the managed health care plan, The
? 5	University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston and the Texas Tech
<u></u> 26	University Health Sciences Center, for employees who are entitled

1	to retain salary and benefits applicable to employees of the Texas
2	Department of Criminal Justice under Section 9.01, Chapter 238,
3	Acts of the 73rd Legislature, Regular Session, 1993, may
4	administer, offer, and report through their payroll systems
5	participation by those employees in the Texas employees uniform
6	group insurance benefits program and the Employees Retirement
7	System of Texas.
8	Sec. 501.147. COMMITTEE AUTHORITY TO CONTRACT. (a) The
9	committee may enter into a contract on behalf of the department to
l O	fully implement the managed health care plan under this subchapter.
11	(b) The committee may, in addition to providing services to
12	the department, contract with other governmental entities for
13	similar health care services and integrate those services into the
14	managed health care provider network.
15	(c) In contracting for implementation of the managed health
16	care plan, the committee, to the extent possible, shall integrate
17	the managed health care provider network with the public medical
18	schools of this state and the component and affiliated hospitals of
19	those medical schools.
20	(d) For services that the public medical schools and their
21	components and affiliates cannot provide, the committee shall
22	initiate a competitive bidding process for contracts with other
23	providers for medical care to persons confined by the department.
24	Sec. 501.148. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEE.
25	(a) The committee shall:
26	(1) downlon the contracts for health care services in

2	(2) determine a capitation rate reflecting the true
3	cost of correctional health care, including necessary catastrophic
4	reserves;
5	(3) monitor and develop reports on general quality of
6	care issues;
7	(4) act as an independent third party in the
8	allocation of money to inmate health care providers;
9	(5) act as an independent third party for the purpose
10	of dispute resolution in the event of a disagreement between the
11	department and the health care providers; and
12	(6) enforce compliance with contract provisions,
13	including requiring corrective action if care does not meet
14	expectations as determined by quality of care monitoring
15	activities.
16	(b) The committee shall evaluate and recommend to the board
17	sites for new medical facilities that appropriately support the
18	managed health care provider network.
19	(c) The committee may contract with an individual for
20	financial consulting services and may make use of financial
21	monitoring of the managed health care plan to assist the committee
22	in determining an accurate capitation rate.
23	(d) The committee may contract with an individual for
24	actuarial consulting services to assist the committee in
25	determining trends in the health of the inmate population and the
26	impact of those trends on future financial needs.

consultation with the department and the health care providers;

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Sec. 501.149. REVIEW OF RURAL HOSPITAL CONTRACTS; REPORT. (a) The committee, in conjunction with The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center, and the department, shall review the use of rural hospital contracts for medical care to persons confined by the department. The review shall include an analysis of inmate transportation costs, including transportation-related security costs, and health care costs. The review may include recommendations for improving the use of contracts with rural hospitals to implement the managed health care plan.

- (b) The committee shall report to the 77th Legislature regarding its findings and any recommendations.
 - (c) This section expires September 1, 2001.

Sec. 501.150. QUALITY OF CARE MONITORING BY THE DEPARTMENT AND HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS. (a) The committee shall establish a procedure for monitoring the quality of care delivered by the health care providers. Under the procedure, the department's monitoring activities must be limited to investigating medical grievances, ensuring access to medical care, and conducting periodic operational reviews of medical care provided at its units.

- (b) The department and the medical care providers shall cooperate in monitoring quality of care. The clinical and professional resources of the health care providers shall be used to the greatest extent feasible for clinical oversight of quality of care issues.
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(c) The department and the medical care providers shall

1	communicate the results of their monitoring activities to the
2	committee.
3	Sec. 501.151. COMPLAINTS. (a) The committee shall maintain
4	a file on each written complaint filed with the committee. The
5	file must include:
6	(1) the name of the person who filed the complaint;
7	(2) the date the complaint is received by the
8	committee;
9	(3) the subject matter of the complaint;
10	(4) the name of each person contacted in relation to
11	the complaint;
2	(5) a summary of the results of the review or
13	investigation of the complaint; and
4	(6) an explanation of the reason the file was closed,
.5	if the committee closed the file without taking action other than
. 6	to investigate the complaint.
.7	(b) The committee shall provide to the person filing the
.8	complaint and to each person who is a subject of the complaint a
.9	copy of the committee's policies and procedures relating to
! 0	complaint investigation and resolution.
!1	(c) The committee, at least quarterly until final
!2	disposition of the complaint, shall notify the person filing the
!3	complaint and each person who is a subject of the complaint of the
!4	status of the investigation unless the notice would jeopardize an
!5	undercover investigation.
: 6	Sec. 501.152. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION. The committee shall

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develop and implement policies that provide the public with a reasonable opportunity to appear before the committee and to speak on any issue under the jurisdiction of the committee.

SECTION 2. Section 501.059, Government Code, is repealed.

SECTION 3. The name of the Correctional Managed Health Care Advisory Committee is changed to the Correctional Managed Health Care Committee. The change in the name of the Correctional Managed Health Care Advisory Committee does not affect the validity of any action taken by the committee before, on, or after the effective date of this Act. A reference in law to the Correctional Managed Health Care Advisory Committee means the Correctional Managed Health Care Committee.

SECTION 4. The governor shall make initial gubernatorial appointments to the Correctional Managed Health Care Committee to accomplish the membership required by Section 501.133, Government Code, as added by this Act, not later than January 1, 2000, and shall designate one member for a term expiring January 31, 2001, one member for a term expiring January 31, 2003, and one member for a term expiring January 31, 2005.

SECTION 5. The Correctional Managed Health Care Committee, in conjunction with The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center, and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, shall begin the review required by Section 501.149, Government Code, as added by this Act, not later than January 1, 2000.

SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 1999.

SECTION 7. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended.

President of the Senate Speaker of the House
I hereby certify that S.B. No. 371 passed the Senate o
April 16, 1999, by a viva-voce vote; May 18, 1999, Senate refuse
to concur in House amendments and requested appointment o
Conference Committee; May 20, 1999, House granted request of th
Senate; May 30, 1999, Senate adopted Conference Committee Report b
a viva-voce vote.
Secretary of the Senate
I hereby certify that S.B. No. 371 passed the House, wit
amendments, on May 14, 1999, by a non-record vote; May 20, 1999
House granted request of the Senate for appointment of Conference
Committee; May 29, 1999, House adopted Conference Committee Repor
by a non-record vote.
Chief Clerk of the House
Approved:
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Date

Governor

FISCAL NOTE, 76th Regular Session

May 28, 1999

TO: Honorable Rick Perry, Lieutenant Governor

Honorable James E. "Pete" Laney, Speaker of the House

FROM: John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB371 by Brown, J. E. "Buster" (Relating to the continuation and functions of the Correctional Managed Health Care Advisory Committee.), Conference Committee

Report

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 116 Sunset Advisory Commission, 696 Department of Criminal Justice

LBB Staff: JK, MD, JN

FISCAL NOTE, 76th Regular Session

April 4, 1999

TO: Honorable Ken Armbrister, Chair, Senate Committee on Criminal Justice

FROM: John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB371 by Brown, J. E. "Buster" (Relating to the continuation and functions of the Correctional Managed Health Care Advisory Committee.), Committee Report 1st House, Substituted

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend Chapter 501, Government Code, to continue the Correctional Managed Health Care Committee for six years, and to set the date for the next Sunset review as September 1, 2005.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source

116 Sunset Advisory Commission, 696 Department of Criminal

Agencies:

Justice

LBB Staff:

JK, MD, JN

FISCAL NOTE, 76th Regular Session Revision 1

March 30, 1999

TO: Honorable Ken Armbrister, Chair, Senate Committee on Criminal Justice

FROM: John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB371 by Brown, J. E. "Buster" (Relating to the continuation and functions of the Correctional Managed Health Care Advisory Committee.), As Introduced

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend Chapter 501, Government Code, to continue the Correctional Managed Health Care Committee for six years, and to set the date for the next Sunset review as September 1, 2005.

Fiscal Year Probable Net Positive/(Negative)
Impact to General Revenue Related
Funds

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 116 Sunset Advisory Commission, 696 Department of Criminal Justice

LBB Staff: JK, MD, JN

Criminal Justice Policy Impact Statement

April 30, 1999

TO: Honorable Pat Haggerty, Chair Committee on Corrections House Austin, Texas

IN RE: Senate Bill No. 371, Committee Report 2nd House, as amended

By: Brown, J. E. "Buster"

FROM: John Keel, Director

In response to your request for a Criminal Justice Policy Impact Statement on SB371 (Relating to the continuation and functions of the Correctional Managed Health Care Advisory Committee.) this office has determined the following:

Criminal Justice Policy Impact Statement

April 22, 1999

TO:

Honorable Pat Haggerty, Chair

Committee on Corrections

House

Austin, Texas

IN RE: Senate Bill No. 371, As

Engrossed

By: Brown, J. E. "Buster"

FROM:

John Keel, Director

In response to your request for a Criminal Justice Policy Impact Statement on SB371 (Relating to the continuation and functions of the Correctional Managed Health Care Advisory Committee.) this office has determined the following:

Criminal Justice Policy Impact Statement

April 5, 1999

TO: Honorable Ken Armbrister, Chair Committee on Criminal Justice Senate Austin, Texas

IN RE: Senate Bill No. 371, Committee Report 1st House, Substituted By: Brown, J. E.

"Buster"

FROM: John Keel, Director

In response to your request for a Criminal Justice Policy Impact Statement on SB371 (Relating to the continuation and functions of the Correctional Managed Health Care Advisory Committee.) this office has determined the following:

Criminal Justice Policy Impact Statement

March 30, 1999

TO: Honorable Ken Armbrister, Chair

Committee on Criminal Justice

Senate Austin, Texas IN RE: Senate Bill No. 371

By: Brown, J. E. "Buster"

FROM: John Keel, Director

In response to your request for a Criminal Justice Policy Impact Statement on SB371 (Relating to the continuation and functions of the Correctional Managed Health Care Advisory Committee.) this office has determined the following:

FISCAL NOTE, 76th Regular Session

April 30, 1999

TO: Honorable Pat Haggerty, Chair, House Committee on Corrections

FROM: John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB371 by Brown, J. E. "Buster" (Relating to the continuation and functions of the Correctional Managed Health Care Advisory Committee.), Committee Report 2nd House, as amended

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend Chapter 501, Government Code, to continue the Correctional Managed Health Care Committee for six years, and to set the date for the next Sunset review as September 1, 2005.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 116 Sunset Advisory Commission, 696 Department of Criminal Justice

LBB Staff: JK, MD, JN

FISCAL NOTE, 76th Regular Session

April 24, 1999

TO: Honorable Pat Haggerty, Chair, House Committee on Corrections

FROM: John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB371 by Brown, J. E. "Buster" (Relating to the continuation and functions of the Correctional Managed Health Care Advisory Committee.), As Engrossed

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend Chapter 501, Government Code, to continue the Correctional Managed Health Care Committee for six years, and to set the date for the next Sunset review as September 1, 2005.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 116 Sunset Advisory Commission, 696 Department of Criminal Justice

LBB Staff: JK, MD, JN

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR LEGISLATION PASSED BY THE 76TH LEGISLATURE

BILL NUMBER:	SB 371	BILL AUTHOR/SPONSOR:	Brown / Gray		
STATUTORY CITATION:	Secs. 501.059, 501.131 – 501.152 Government Code				
SUBJECT:	Correctional Managed Health Care Sunset Provisions				
IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBILITY:	Correctional Managed Health Care Committee				
EFFECTIVE DATE:	September 1, 1999				

BILL SUMMARY:

This bill reauthorizes the continuation of the Correctional Managed Health Care Advisory Committee (CMHCAC) until September 1, 2005. It also changes the name to Correctional Managed Health Care Committee (CMHCC). The bill further expands committee membership from six to nine members including three public members appointed by the governor, at least two of whom must be physicians. It also clarifies authority and responsibility of the CMHCC. Requires the CMHCC to develop a managed Health care plan for all persons confined by TDCJ. Significant portions of the plan are: a network of physicians and hospitals that serves as the exclusive health care providers for persons confined in facilities operated by the department; cost containment studies; case management and utilization management studies; and criteria for hospitals, home health or hospice providers that accept certification by the Medicare program as an alternative to accreditation by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Organizations. Allows the committee to enter into contracts on behalf of TDCJ to implement the managed health care plan. Requires competitive bidding for health care services that the public medical schools cannot provide. Requires the CMHCC to determine a capitation rate reflecting the "true cost of correctional health care, including necessary catastrophic reserves." Requires the CMHCC to monitor quality of care; act as an independent third party in disputes between TDCJ and health care providers; enforce compliance with contract provisions; make recommendations on sites for new medical facilities; and contract with individuals for financial actuarial consulting services. Directs TDCJ to monitor the quality of care delivered by health care providers; investigate grievances; ensure access to medical care; and conduct periodic operational reviews. Requires that the clinical and professional resources of the health care providers be used to the "greatest extent feasible" for clinical oversight of quality of care issues. The bill also establishes training criteria on laws governing open meetings, public information, ethics and other topics. It also requires the committee to study how rural hospitals might be used to reduce health care and transportation costs.

STEPS	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	TARGET DATE	DATE COMPLETED
Provide Current CMHCC Members with Training Material	CMHCC Staff	09/15/1999	09/15/1999
Develop and Schedule Training for Newly Appointed Members	CMHCC	Within 10 Days of Appointment	05/16/2000

(SB 371 Continued)					
Develop and Adopt Across the Board Policies	CMHCC	12/01/1999	12/01/1999		
Adopt Procedures for Monitoring Quality of Care	СМНСС	12/31/2000	02/24/2000 and Ongoing*		
Adopt Procedures for Responding to Complaints	СМНСС	12/01/1999	12/01/1999		
Appointment by Governor & Designee of a CMHCC Physician as Chair	Governor	01/01/2000	03/27/2000		
Conduct Actuarial Review of Capitation Rate and Trends in Health Care Impacting Future	CMHCC Staff	12/31/2000	Ongoing		
Conduct Review of Use of Rural Hospital Contracts	CMHCC Staff	12/31/2000	Ongoing		

^{*}Monitoring program changes are currently being phased in incremental fashion. New UTMB Operational Performance Evaluation System (OPES) initiated 09/01/1999; New system-wide Quality Improvement/Quality Management Plan implemented 12/01/1999; New grievance/patient liaison processing procedures approved 02/24/2000; TDCJ Health Services Quarterly Reporting Summaries initiated 09/01/1999. Monitoring program refinements continue on an on-going basis.